

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SAM-01

VOE-00 SCA-01 INSE-00 CPR-01 TRSE-00 CU-04 CIAE-00

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P R 241400Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO UUSIA WASHDC PRIORITY 5007

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6812

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS BEIRUT 13251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP SOPN EG US LE (SADAT, ANWAR)

SUBJECT: LEBANESE JOURNALISTS TO COVER SADAT VISIT TO U.S.

REF: USIA 25384-C (NOTAL); BEIRUT 12948 (NOTAL)

1. AS SURMISED IN BEIRUT REFTEL, GOE ACTED ONLY THIS WEEK TO ISSUE INVITATIONS TO FAVORED LEBANESE JOURNALISTS. THREE OF THESE HAVE REQUESTED FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE AS DETAILED IN PARAS 3 AND 4 BELOW.

2. FOLLOWING JOURNALISTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED U.S. VISAS: (A) FUAD MATAR, EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS EXPERT OF BEIRUT'S LEADING INDEPENDENT ARABIC DAILY "AN-NAHAR"; (B) HUDA AL-HUSAYNI, STAFF REPORTER OF BEIRUT'S LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN ARABIC DAILY "AL-ANWAR"; (C) ADIL MALIK, BEIRUT'S LEADING ARABIC TV COMMENTATOR, WHO WORKS FOR TELE-ORIENT BUT WHOSE PROGRAMS ARE SEEN ON ALL LEBANESE TV STATIONS ON NETWORK BASIS, AND (D) HIS CAMERAMAN, ANTOINE PARTAMIAN. ACCORDING TO MATAR, EGYPTIAN EMBASSY HAS ALSO ISSUED INVITATION TO (E) GEORGES BASHIR, FOREIGN NEWS WRITER FOR BEIRUT'S LEADING INDEPENDENT ARABIC WEEKLY "AL-HAWADITH".

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3. MATAR PLANS TO STAY ON IN U.S. FOR A FEW DAYS OF

BACKGRROUND BRIEFINGS AND INTERVIEWS FOLLOWING PRESIDENT SADAT'S DEPARTURE. IN RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST FOR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE, POST HAS GIVEN HIM ADDRESSES OF FOREIGN PRESS CENTERS IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK AND NAME OF GEORGE SHERMAN OF NEA/P. POST RECOMMENDS MATAR AS WELL INFORMED OBSERVER OF EGYPTIAN SCENE, ON WHICH HE HAS WRITTEN SEVERAL BOOKS. FYI, MATAR SPEAKS FRENCH AND ARABIC, BUT NO ENGLISH. "AN-NAHAR" U.S. CORRESPONDENT RAFIQ MA'LUF AND/OR "AN-NAHAR" WASHINGTON STRINGER BASIM AL-MU'ALLIM MAY ACCOMPANY MATAR ON HIS CALLS. BOTH SPEAK ENGLISH.

4. MALIK AND PARTAMIAN REQUEST FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE IN FORM OF (A) SOUND CAMERA TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR OWN NON-SOUND CAMERA AND THEIR STOCK OF 16 MM SOUND FILM AND (B) GUIDANCE ON AIRSHIPPING FILM BACK TO LEBANON. POST HAS GIVEN THEM NAME OF MARV LIPMAN OF IMV/PS AS POINT OF CONTACT. TEAM PLANS NO SATELLITE FEEDS. FYI, MALIK SPEAKS ARABIC AND FRENCH, BUT NO ENGLISH, WHILE PARTAMIAN SPEAKS FRENCH, ARABIC, AND SOME ENGLISH. GODLEY

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